

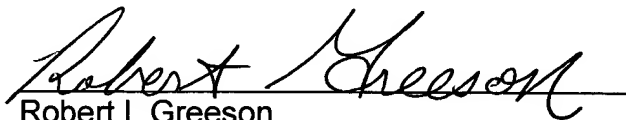
CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) An improved process for imprinting plastic identification tags with durable indicia comprising the steps of:
 - selecting a plastic tag blank;
 - printing indicia on said plastic tag blank;
 - overlying said indicia, once said indicia is printed on said plastic tag blank with a thin, plastic film to form a juxtaposed pairing of said plastic tag blank and said plastic film;
 - applying heat to said juxtaposed pairing sufficient to weld said indicia to said plastic tag blank; and
 - ~~removing said plastic film from said plastic tag blank after said applying heat~~
melting a sufficient amount of said plastic tag blank material to disperse said material over said plastic tag blank surface and said indicia.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said printing is effected through use of a computer-driven printer.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said printing is effected through use of a computer-driven ink jet printer.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said applying heat is effected by pressing a heated platen against said juxtaposed pairing.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said plastic film is a polyester film of approximately 19 microns in thickness.
6. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said plastic film is a polyester film.
- 7 (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein said plastic film is a polyester film.
8. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein said platen is heated to a temperature of between approximately 350 F and 400 F.

Applicant respectfully submits, that in view of the above, claims 1-8 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are hereby requested, and allowance of Claims 1-8 at an early date is solicited. If impediments to allowance of the claims remain and a telephone conference between the undersigned and the Examiner would help remove such impediments in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference is respectfully requested.

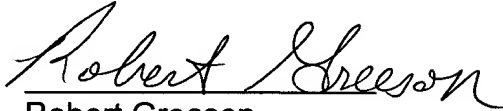
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert L. Greeson", written over a horizontal line.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this the 18 day of October, 2004


Robert Greeson